



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

JB Pritzker, Governor

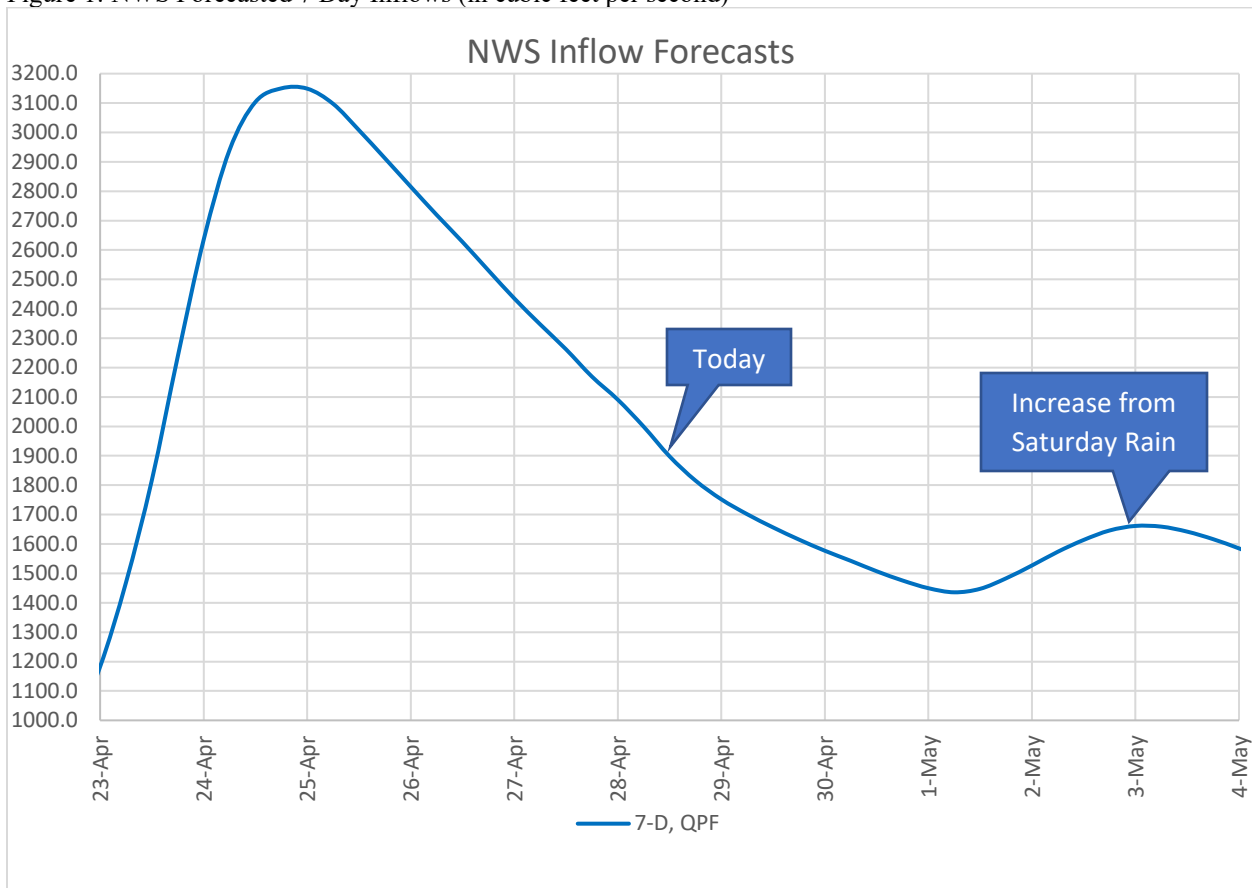
Colleen Callahan, Director

Fox River Status Update April 28, 2022

Update: Current inflows have lowered to near 2000 cfs with dam outflows near 2700 cfs. The outflows will be maintained at this level in anticipation of upcoming rainfall and continued lowering of lake levels. Lake levels will be near 4.2 on Saturday. Pending rainfall forecasts, gates will be adjusted to bring the Lower River tailwaters at McHenry below 3.0 on Sunday.

This is based on the current forecast and will be adjusted based on actual rainfall.

Figure 1: NWS Forecasted 7 Day Inflows (in cubic feet per second)



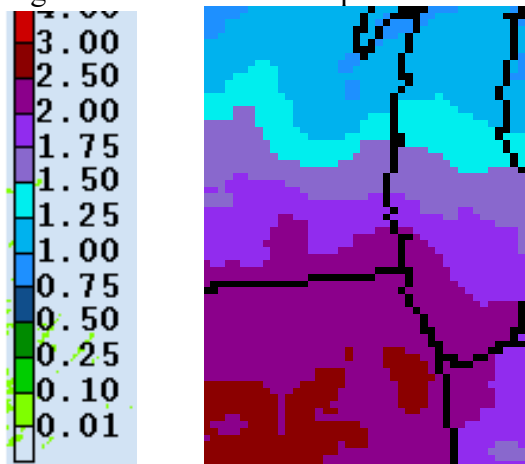
Current Conditions

Measured inflows on the Fox River near New Munster, WI are 1230 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove are 222 cfs. The National Weather Service (NWS) estimates local tributary inflows of 546 cfs. The total system inflows are around 1998 cfs, the outflows at Stratton dam are 2745 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.52 ft and steadily falling; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 3.72 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam Tailwater stage is 8.83 ft.

Forecast

The NWS 7-day forecast is predicting 2.0 inches of precipitation for the Fox River watershed as shown on Figure 2. The heaviest rains are forecasted to be on Saturday (0.6”), Tuesday (0.8”) and next Thursday (0.6”). Inflows are forecasted to continue to drop from their current levels for the next three days with a small peak on Tuesday as shown above in Figure 1.

Figure 2: Forecasted Precipitation for the Next 7 days (in inches)



Source: [Weather Prediction Center \(WPC\) Home Page \(noaa.gov\)](http://www.weather.gov)

Lakes & Upper River Outlook

Water levels are expected to drop to around 4.0 by Monday based on the forecast. The lakes will be maintained at this level based on current forecasts. The IDNR/OWR continues to closely monitor the forecasted rainfall and inflows provided by the National Weather Service.

Lower River Outlook

The Stratton Dam gates will be continuously monitored and adjusted to maintain a Stratton tailwater gage reading of below 3.8 thru Saturday morning. Pending rainfall, the gates will be adjusted to below 3.0 in preparation for Sunday.

Wes Cattoor, P.E., CFM

Wes.cattoor@illinois.gov

Office of Water Resources

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/WaterResources/Pages/StrattonLockandDam.aspx>